Attorney's Docket N .: 07575-034001

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## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An operating system, comprising:

a non-preemptive microkernel executing one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and

one or more kernels adapted to be each being executed as a process one or more processes by the non-preemptive microkernel.

- 2. (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein one of the kernels executes an operating system as a dependent process.
- 3. (original) The operating system of claim 2, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system or a microkernel.
  - 4. (original) The operating system of claim 2, wherein the operating system is Unix.
- 5. (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein each process has its own stack.
- 6. (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein the processes communicate using one or more messages.

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- (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein each process has a unique 7. process identifier (PID).
- (original) The operating system of claim 7, further comprising a mailbox coupled 8. to a plurality of processes to service messages sent to a single PID.
- 9. (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein the processes never terminate.
- 10. (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein one of the kernels is a microkemel.
- 11. (original) A method for operating a computer system, comprising: managing one or more processes with a non-preemptive microkernel, the microkernel running the one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and executing one or more kernels as one or more processes managed by the non-preemptive microkernel.
- 12. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing an operating system in one of the microkernels as a dependent process.
- 13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system or a microkernel.
  - 14. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is Unix.
  - 15. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein each process has its own stack.

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16. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising performing inter-process communication using one or more messages.

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- 17. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein each process has a unique process identifier (PID).
- 18. (original) The operating system of claim 17, further comprising servicing messages sent to a single PID by a plurality of processes using a mailbox.
- 19. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing the processes without termination.
- 20. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing a microkernel in one of the kernels.
- 21. (original) A computer system, comprising:

  means for managing one or more processes with a non-preemptive microkernel, the

  microkernel running the one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and

  means for executing one or more kernels as one or more processes managed by the nonpreemptive microkernel.
- 22. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing an operating system in one of the microkemels.
- 23. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system.
  - 24. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is Unix.

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25. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein each process has its own stack.

26. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for performing inter-process communication using one or more messages.

27. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein each process has a unique process identifier (PID).

- 28. (original) The operating system of claim 17, further comprising means for servicing messages sent to a single PID by a plurality of processes using a mailbox.
- 29. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing the processes without termination.
- 30. (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing a microkernel in one of the kernels.
  - 31. (currently amended) A computer, comprising: an interconnect bus;

one or more processors coupled to the interconnect bus and adapted to be configured for server\_specific functionalities including network processing, file processing, storage processing and application processing;

a configuration processor coupled to the interconnect bus and to the processors, the configuration processor dynamically assigning processor functionalities upon request;

one or more data storage devices coupled to the processors and managed by a file system;

a non-preemptive microkernel executing one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and

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one or more kernels adapted to be each being executed as a process one or more processes by the non-preemptive microkernel.

- (original) The computer of claim 31, wherein the microkernel executes an 32. operating system as a dependent process.
- (original) The computer of claim 31, wherein the microkernel executes a network 33. switch operating system as a dependent process.